cold steel in the conference chamber. And the few words M. Witte said to the foreign newscouraging. He looked tired, and said nothing had been accomplished.

"To-morrow," he said, "we will finish Ar-

"What then?" he was asked.

"Then we will go to dinner," he replied, as he excused himself to go to dine with Assistant

The individual views of the members of the Russian mission differ as to what point should be yielded if a compromise is to be offered. Some favor surrender on Saghalien, others on indemnity. None are ready to give up both

It was learned at midnight that in the conferences the Japanese plenipotentiaries several times manifested a sort of desire to couple consideration of the disputed points. This might indicate a willingness to bargain at the end. The Russians watched these moves with great interest, waiting for their adversaries to press them, but without showing their hands. Mr. Sato is quoted as saying that the Japanese to-morrow propose again taking up the articles which have been passed over. If that is the case the Japanese may have decided openly to propose joint consideration.

#### ENVOYS DISAPPOINTED.

#### Weather for the First Time Proves a False Prophet.

(By The Associated Press.) Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 17 .- If all did not go smoothly in the peace conference room to-day. the subjects under discussion were wholly responsible for the lack of harmony, for the weather could not have been more nearly perfect. And for the first time to-day the weather failed accurately to indicate the trend of the negotiations. The first few days of the conference went smoothly, harmony reigned and the weather was excellent. Saturday was an extremely hot day, the mosquitoes were especially vigorous and Saghalien was the subject under discussion. Not until late in the afternoon did the atmosphere become cool, and almost simultaneously the plenipotentiaries, before adjourning their afternoon session, set aside this troublesome article to be finally discussed at

Monday and Tuesday were difficult days in the conference room, and cold and disagreeable out of doors.

The bright sunshine which greeted the envoys as they started for the navy yard this morning seemed to give them hope in the face of the grave problems with which they were to struggle. All four plenipotentiaries started from the Wentworth in excellent spirits. Their return was in striking contrast. The weather for the first time had failed in its prophecy. The envoys were apparently too melancholy over the results of their two long sessions-or rather the lack of results-to enjoy to the full the gorgeous sunset or the ride home through the twilight.

The Japanese hastened to their rooms, and in a few minutes half a dozen secretaries were busily preparing cable dispatches which will hardly clear the wire before the early morning ours. M. Takahira dined in his room. Baron Kemura dined in the main dining room with M. Sato and Mr. Denison, but he did not linger over his coffee and the conversation of the men seemed to drag.

M. Witte and Baron Rosen did not have an epportunity to reflect on the failures of the ay's sessions. They had barely time to dress and go to the Niles cottage, a mile away, where the Third Assistant Secretary of State and Mrs. Feirce gave an official dinner in their honor tonight. There were eighteen guests, including, besides the Russian plenipotentiaries, M. Pokotiloff, M. de Martens, M. Rojestvensky and Commander Cameron McR. Winslow, of the May-

In semi-full dress uniform, Commander Takeshita, the Japanese naval attaché at Washingboard the Mayflower to-day to leave the cards of Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira and to present their regrets that their duties prevented them from calling in person. Before the conference adjourns, however, Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira will call by appointment on board the Mayflower and the Douphin to pay their re-

The arrival of Baroness Rosen and Miss Rosen at the Wentworth was one of the events of the day. They came in an automobile from Magnelia, accompanied by Baron Schlippen bach, the Russian Consul General at Chicago The party took luncheon in the private dining room of the Russian mission with the attaches, whose presence was not needed at the navy vard. Without seeing either M. Witte or Baron Rosen, who were at the navy yard all day, the baroness and her daughter returned to

Magnolia this afternoon. M. Witte's mail increases every day. It has now reached such proportions that he has designated M. Rojestvensky, who speaks English perfectly, to answer the communications. M. Witte insists on reading all the personal letters which are coming to him from every State in the Union. He has been deeply touched by the kindly sentiments they contain. Perhaps a third of these letters are from Americans who say they are anxious to see him that they may assure him of their personal admiration. Many invitations to visit various parts of the country are received. This feature of his visit and the voluntary outpouring of friendly feeling for Russia from quarters whence he least expected it will form the subject of a special report to the Emperor, when M. Witte next sees his sovereign.

A tennis tournament was the centre of interest at the hotel to-day, and M. Pokotiloff, Mr. Hanthara and other members of both missions watched it for a long time. Commander W low came over from the Mayflower in his circ boat to watch the play in the afternoon.



enjoyed their visit here. "The weather is everything here." said one of them to-night.

The steam yacht Tarantula, belonging to William K. Vanderbilt, arrived in the harbor this afternoon. Mr. Vanderbilt is expected by rail

#### MARTENS ON INDEMNITY.

#### Japan's Demand Without Precedent, He Declares.

(By The Associated Press. Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 17.-M. De Martens, one of the Russian delegates, and recognized as one of the great authorities on international law, not only in Russia, but throughout the world, in speaking to-night about the principle of the war indemnity, said that there is no precedent in history where a country whose territory was not occupied in whole or in part by the enemy had paid war tribute on the conclusion of peace. Russia, M. De Martens said, was not crushed. She was not on her knees begging for peace. She wanted peace, but she could go on fighting for years. Japan had not even approached the true Russian frontier.

"Should Russia consent to pay tribute to Japan in any form," he continued, "it would be her political death. The powers would understand that she accepted the proposition of President Roosevelt, not because she was desirous of an honorable peace, but because her power had been annihilated and she recognized that it was impossible for her to continue the war. It would mean a public confession that Russia is at Portsmouth, helplessly kneeling before Japan. imploring peace and ready to accept any terms imposed. No one will seriously contend that the Muscovite empire is in any such position."

With many interesting historical examples, M. de Martens proceeded to elaborate his assertion that no country had ever paid indemnity except when powerless to confront the enemy on the field of battle and a large portion of her territory in the enemy's possession as a hostage

In 1807, he pointed out, when Napoleon imposed the peace of Tilsit, French troops occupied practically all of Prussia, and the Prussian royal family had fled to Russian soil. France could dictate terms. She exacted a war in demnity of \$300,000,000, and garrisoned several Prussian towns with French troops at the expense of Prussia as a guarantee of payment. She required that the Prussian army should be reduced to 40,000 men.

In 1815, when Napoleon was annihilated at Waterloo after the famous One Hundred Days, and the second treaty of Paris was concluded. the allied powers occupying Paris, as the Prussians did later in 1870, imposed in addition to other conditions a war indemnity of \$500,000,-000, to be paid in five years, in which time the allied troops were to hold a portion of French territory. That sum, however, was considerably reduced by Wellington at Aix-la-Chapelle, and France completed the payment of the indemnity in three years. The largest war indemnity ever exacted was imposed by Prince Bismarck on France in 1870. It amounted to \$1,000,000,000. But Napoleon III had fallen. Gambetta was powerless. Prussia was at Paris. The Third Republic succeeded in liquidating the indemnity in two years, while, according to the treaty she had five years' time in which to pay.

In other cases, even where a portion of the territory of the defeated country was occupied, no indemnity was exacted or even asked-for nstance, Russia, in 1856, although the Crimean Peninsula was occupied by the Anglo-Franco Piedmontese troops, was not asked to pay tribute. Neither did Austria in 1859, after having been defeated by the Franco-Piedmontese and having lost Lombardy, nor in 1866, after having been beaten by Prussia, pay an indemnity. Den mark in 1864 lost Schleswig-Holstein to Prussia.

A new precedent was made by America, added M. de Martens, in her war with Spain. Although victorious and in a position to demand indemnity, she ended the war on principle and actually paid \$20,000,000 to the Madrid government for the Philippine Islands. But that, he represented, was, as the French say, to "dorer said:

Independent of all these considerations, M. de Martens said. Russia's objection to the payment of an indemnity, under no matter what form, comes from the fact that in all her history she never paid a cent of tribute to a foreign power, not even at the time of her worst defeats under Peter the Great, when a large portion of the country was in the hands of the invaders. In country was in the hands of the invaders. In conclusion, he called attention to the fact that to pay an indemnity to Japan would be for Russia to create a precedent new in the world's

### CHINA IN NEGOTIATIONS.

#### Her Consent to Transfer of Eastern Railroad Necded.

(By The Associated Press.) Fortsmouth, N. H., Aug. 17.-China has, at east constructively, become a partyto the peace fer to China of the branch of the Chinese Eastern Railroad running south from Harbin, which was agreed to by the plenipotentiaries "in principle" yesterday, involved, perhaps, in the final settlement prolonged and complicated negotiagovernment and Russia. Russia has agreed to surrender the road to China and give up he concession obtained in 1898, but China must consent, which means that she must agree to remunerate the Russian government, which guaranteed the bonds for the building of the road, in an amount hereafter to be determined. Japan also has her claim for the rebuilding of the road destroyed by the Russian armies, the reconstruction of bridges and change of The question remains primarily to be adjusted by Japan and China, and it is not unlikely that the Tokio government is already in communication with the Peking government on the subject.

The long dispatches sent by Baron Komura to his government on this subject after yesterday's session, which were not all off until 6 o'clock this morning, make this probable, Possibly an answer from China is essential to final agreement on Article 7, and this may be the true reason for the postponement after an agreement "in principle" had been reached. China's wish to be consulted concerning articles of the treaty affecting her territory must be respected, in this particular at least. China may not care to assume the financial burden involved in taking over the road. She certainly could not raise the money without hypothecating the property. If Japan is convinced that the road will eventually become a paying commercial venture, she might herself advance the money, or it might be raised for China by an international syndicate and the line made a part of the system of Chinese imperial railroads. If not, Japan might and probably would for the present step into Russia's shoes, although she has solemnly promised China to restore Manchuria, and to retain the railroad would be to

retain strategical control of the province. The amount Russia will realize is impossible to estimate. It will undoubtedly be only a comparatively small fraction of the sum poured into it. By the terms of the concession China had Russia. We were much pleased with the interthe privilege of taking over the road at the end of thirty-six years on repayment of capital, construction and deficit charges. Japan recognized that Russia was entitled to some remuneration, but the basis is not known. The Russian claim was founded on the principle of international law that a belligerent accumulate. ternational law that a belligerent occupying territory can exercise the right of usufruct of pri- UKASE FOR RUSSIAN INTERNAL LOAN. vate property during occupation, but cannot St. Petersburg, Aug. 17.—An imperial ukase

For the last two days the envoys have greatly petent to defend the rights of the company, priored their visit here. "The weather is every- which Russia asserts is distinctly a private which Russia asserts is distinctly a private corporation, although making no concealment of the fact that it was backed by the government because of political considerations. The original concession, obtained in 1896 for the Chinese Eastern, then simply the "cut-off" through Northern Manchuria, was obtained by the late Northern Manchuria, was obtained by the late M. Rothstein, director of the Russo-Chinese Bank, and Prince Uktomsky, and the company was formed for the construction of the road. In 1898, after the lease of Port Arthur and Talien-Wan (Dalny) was obtained from China, the concession for the southern branch was negotiated. It provided for a Chinese president of the road, and Shukingchin, who had been the Chinese Minister in St. Petersburg, was president until he fell a victim to the anti-foreign Boxer uprising in 1900.

The bonds issued with the government guar-

The bonds issued with the government guar antee were sold like government 4 per cent rentes, and are now in the hands of the banks and general public, like regular government obligations. Although the loss on operations has been heavy, the Russo-Chinese Bank always believed it would become a remunerative concern. One of the big extraordinary items of expense was the necessity of maintaining railroad One of the big extraordinary to the necessity of maintaining reflroad guards. The southern branch, which now goes to China, gave especial promise of being very

#### RUSSIA HELPLESS.

#### Her Plight Worse if She Does Not Yield, Says Hayashi.

London, Aug. 17 .- Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister to Great Britain, declared to-day that the pessimistic dispatches from Portsmouth were not worthy of consideration.

"If the war continues," said he, "our forces will capture Vladivostok and Harbin, taking by force territory of greater value than the payments demanded by Japan, after which our army will intrench an advantageous line, from which it will require treble the number of the enemy to dislodge us.

"We do not fear the threat proclaimed in inspired articles that the war will become popular in Russia. Even if it should, how can the vast army necessary to drive us back be sustained by a government that is unable to obtain foreign loans, while its atempts at home meet with only partial success, and famine and disaffection threaten the country. "The inspired dispatches contend that the Rus-

sian people would not suffer a sacrifice of Saghalien, but the retention of Saghalien by Japan is a greater point of honor to the Japanese. It was once an integral part of the Japanese empire, while it has never been more than an outpost province to Russia.' Baron Hayashi said that the plenipotentiaries

on both sides possess full power to conclude peace, and that the ratification of the terms would only be a matter of formality. He added that he has been receiving full advices of the proceedings daily.

#### ENGLAND'S HANDS OFF.

#### Not Pressing Japan-London and Paris Bourses Augur Peace.

London, Aug. 17.-In contradiction to the persistent assertions that the British government !s pressing Japan to ameliorate her demands, the Foreign Office informed The Associated Press to-day that the government was taking no part whatever in the negotiations. Advice, it was said, had not been asked of Great Britain by her ally, and it was not likely to be given until re-

While pessimism reigns supreme in the reports from Portsmouth and the editorials appearing in the newspapers, there exists in official circles in London a strong conviction that a treaty of peace will be the outcome of the con-The Associated Press is able to state that the British government, which has been kept informed of the progress of negotiations through Minister Hayashi, is fairly hopeful that a lasting peace will be concluded.

A diplomat with whom an Associated Press representative discussed the question to-day

On the Stock Exchange Russian and Japanese bonds quietly advance, and a confident undertone characterizes stocks generally.

Paris, Aug. 17.-Notwithstanding official reticence regarding the exercise of mediatory influences for peace by neutral powers, it is the general impression in well informed quarters here that pressure is being brought to bear both in Portsmouth and in Tokio and St. Petersburg, and the rapidity of the negotiations so far is looked upon as the result of these influences. Pessimistic advices emanating from other cap-

itals are regarded as unwarranted, especially in financial circles, where it is the general view negotiations. Article 7, relating to the trans- that the Portsmouth conference will be crowned with success.

The remarkable firmness of Russian stocks and their tendency to rise show the depth of this feeling.

### tions between China and Japan and the Peking PLEASED WITH M. WITTE.

#### I. N. Seligman Believes Conference Will Bear Fruit.

Isaac N. Seligman, of the banking house of J. & W. Seligman & Co., who, with Jacob H. Schiff, Adolph Lewisohn and Oscar S. Straus, had a conference with M. Witte at Portsmouth a few days ago concerning the treatment by Russia of her Jewish subjects, was at his office yesterday afternoon for the first time since the meeting took place. Asked for further particulars about the conference, he said that the statement given out at Portsmouth covered the subject.

"We believe that that conference will become a bright spot in history," he continued. "We think

that much good will come of it. No, we did not ask for the conference. Neither did M. Witte call it. It had been arranged by other parties to have us come together. We were much impressed by M. Witte-his breadth, his can dor and his human feeling. As we understand it he has no powers to do what we asked, but we b

he has no powers to do what we asked, but we believe that he will use his good offices, and that he
will be in a position to hear our message to his
imperial majesty the Czar in a ocnvincing way
that we are confident will bear fruit.

"The newspapers have placed an entirely wrong
construction on the conference. No bond issue
or loan was discussed in the remotest way."

Asked about a story from Portsmouth that the
Jewish bankers had carried to M. Witte a paper
which they asked him to sign, guaranteeing reforms looking toward absolute political equality
for Jews in Russiz, and had informed him that
Russia could never get another outside loan without the help of the Jewish bankers of the world
and without better treatment of Jews in Russia,
Mr. Seligman said that there was not a word of
truth in the story; that M. Witte could not have
made any such promises, and that the question of
loans to Russia was not talked of.

Chicago, Aug. 17 .- Adolf Kraus returned to Chicago yesterday well satisfied with the result of the conference of Jewish representatives with M. Witte in Portsmouth on Monday night,

"There is no doubt." he said, "that the Russian Assembly will take up seriously the question of settling the Jewish rights. M. Witte fairly and candidly discussed the conditions as they exist in

confiscate as a spoil of war. M. Witte, in whose brain was born the conception of the Chinese Eastern Railway, was particularly com-

Japanese Negotiating with Krupps for Armor Also.

Berlin, Aug. 17.-The Japanese government is negotiating with the Krupps for fresh orders of armor plate and guns. Herr Ecclus, director of the Krupp firm, is here arranging the contracts with Japanese agents.

#### RUSSIA TO CUT DUTY.

#### M. Witte May Announce That Czar Makes for Peace in Sugar War.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 17.—The Associated Press is informed that M. Witte soon will make an official announcement in America of a reduction by Russia in the duties on American machinery and tools, which have been operative since 1901. Ambassador Meyer secured this concession after extending negotiations with the Ministries of Finance and Foreign Affairs. Through Ambassador Meyer the United States

proposed to Russia a commercial arrangement between the two countries, under Section 3 of the Tariff Act of 1897. This was agreed to, and in anticipation of such an arrangement Russia decided upon the reduction.

Russia put an especially high duty on American nachinery and tools in retaliation for the counter ailing duty placed by the United States on Russlan sugar. This extra duty on sugar was prompted by Russia's payment of an export bounty on that article. The whole question has been known as the Russo-American sugar war,

#### JEWS IN ASSEMBLY.

#### M. Witte Says They Can Vote and Serve, It Is Reported.

"The American Hebrew" to-day contains a report of the interview between M. Witte and the Jewish bankers, Jacob H. Schiff, Iszac N. Seligman, car Straus, Adolph Lewisohn and Adolph Kraus, M. Witte is reported as saying that the Jews have the right to vote for members of the National Assembly, that they can be elected members of it, and that the whole Jewish question in Russia will come up before that assembly for settlement,

will come up before that assembly for settlement. The report follows:

Jacob H. Schiff, accompanied by Isaac N. Seligman, Adolph Lewisohn, Oscar S. Straus and Adolph Kraus, called on M. Witte, at his invitation, and were closeted with him and M. Rosen for over three hours. Mr. Kraus represented the Independent Order B'nat B'rith.

M. Witte was most liberal and sympathetic in his own attitude toward the Jews, but he frankly expressed the fear that any other plan but a gradual removal of the disabilities against the Jews in Russia was impracticable.

The delegation sought earnessly to impress him with the necessity of prompt action in granting to the Jews not a partial relief, but the fullest civil rights that are enjoyed by any of their fellow subjects. They stated without any reserve, and in the plainest language, that unless this was granted by the government, the steadily growing influence of the Jewish financiers and merchants in America and Europe would be thrown against Russia and all things Russian. They also said that the good will of the American people had been lost to Russia hecause of its exceptional treatment of the Jews for the last twenty-five years, of which Kishineff. Zhitomir and the other numberless excesses were but the natural outcome, and that their good will could not be regained until Russia has actually given equal rights to her Jewish subjects.

The committee seem to feel that they made a very strong impression upon M. Witte personally. Whether or not the result of the conference will have any practical effect upon the Russian government, the future alone can disclose.

M. Witte averred that the Jews have the right to vote for members of the National Assembly, and that they can even be elected as members thereof. When this assembly is ultimately constituted, said he, it will have the decision of the entire Jewish question, which will come up before it, and he was full of hope as to the outcome.

#### PHIPPS BOYS UP FOR SHOOTING.

#### Their Case Remitted for Trial at Edinburgh-Plead Not Guilty.

Inverness, Scotland, Aug. 17-Jay S. Phipps and Henry Carnegie Phipps, sons of Henry Phipps, of Pittsburg, Penn., were formally arraigned to-day in the High Court on the charge of shooting "at" salmon fishers on the Beauly River, and pleaded "not guilty." The case was remitted for trial at Edinburgh. The defend-ants contended that they merely fired in the di-rection of supposed poachers and had no idea of hitting them. of hitting them.

Mr. Phipps, whose sons are defendants in the case referred to, has for several seasons rented from Lord Lovat, Beaufort Castle in Invernessshire and the salmon fishing rights on the Beauly River. There seems, however, to have been some misunderstanding regarding the tenure of the fishing lease. One night in July last the young men observed six men engaged with a net and a boat on the river. They sup-posed them to be poachers, it is alleged, and, receiving no answer to their shouts, fired at the fishers, who decamped, with the exception

This man, who proved to be John Allan Fraser, gillie to Lord Lovat and son of the oldest employe on the Lovat estate, received several wounds in the eyes and was blinded, while two wounds in the eyes and was binded, while two others of the party, it was learned later, had been shot in the legs. After investigation of the case, the Phipps boys were committed for trial, but released on bail. They said at the time that they had no intention of injuring anybody, their object in shooting being to scare away the supposed poachers.

## AMERICA TO HELP KAISER IN POLAND.

#### Germans in Strengthening Hold on Provinces to Study Western Farm Methods.

Posen, Prussia, Aug. 17.-Several members of the Royal Settlements Commission have been ordered to visit the United States for the purpose of studying Western farm management. This commission is engaged in buying lands owned by Poles and settling Germans on them, so as to increase German influence in the provinces of Prussian Poland.

A credit to the extent of \$25,000,000 was given to the commission in 1886. This was increased to \$50,000,000 in 1898, and to \$87,500,000 in list and it will probably be still further increased. Dr. Hugenberg, of the Ministry of Finance, will accompany the commissioners, who will sail for New-York on August 22.

### ACHINESE KILL DUTCH.

#### East Indian Natives Attack Post and Make Their Escape-Varying Details.

Amsterdam, Aug. 17.-A telegram received from Batavia, Dutch East Indies, reports an ugly outbreak of Achinese rebels, who attacked the Dutch post at Rambong, killing two officers and twenty-two men. Only six men of the post succeeded in escaping, and these were

ports another attack by Achinese rehels Dutch bivouac at Bakong, in the Klewang District. A Dutch officer and six European soldiers were killed. The Achinese left a score killed.

The Hague, Aug. 17.- An official dispatch re-

## SAMPLE OF CUBAN COTTON HERE

#### Steamer Paloma Brings Part of Second Year Crop from Matanzas. The steamer Paioma, from Matanzas, which ar-

rived in port yesterday, brought four bales of cotton, of seventy-five pounds each, to the Munson Steamship Company. The cotton, which is a sample of the second crop raised in Cuba, is of the finest quality, and would easily bring 25 cents This kind of cotton can be grown on

of the island, and will yield five hundred pounds to the acre. The isle of Pines is said to be particularly well adapted for cotton raising.

The boil weevil, which exists in nearly every cotton producing district, damaged the crop considerable.

## MIKADO ORDERS GUNS. | TO PROTECT CANAL LABOR. | HOPEFUL FOR INSURANCE.

#### Workmen Must Have Commissariats, COMMITTEE OPTIMISTIC. Says Shonts.

Theodore P. Shonts, chairman of the Panama Canal Commission, said yesterday in this city that he was not surprised at the report from Panama to the effect that the merchants there were protesting against the recently established commissariats in the canal zone. He also said that all the protests would be of no avail, as the establishment of commissariats was the most important and necessary preliminary step toward the completion of the Panama Canal. Continuing, he said:

If the merchants are protesting, all I can say is, "Let them protest." The commission has a treaty with the government of Panama has a treaty with the government of Panama for the establishment of these stores along the canal route; and they must exist or the canal work will stop. We must feed and care for the workingmen before we can expect labor from them. There is no surplus produced in Panama. The sudden influx of ten thousand persons has caused a greater consumption in the republic and prices have gone up. The merchants will not give credit to the laborers for more than a week at a time and as the "silver men" or week at a time, and as the "silver men" or laborers were paid irregularly they were often actually in need of food.

The laborers cannot pay the high prices asked

by the merchants, and they cannot essaries of life without paying in cash

In our commissariats the men can get credit and also purchase food for cost, plus a slight advance for freight handling. One of the first advance for freight handling. One of the mass things I straightened out on my recent visit to Panama was the provision for semi-weekly pay-ments of salary and the establishment of com-missariats along the canal route from Panama to Colon.

Replying to the report that the suspension of ligging operations on the Panama Canal has been caused by the exhaustion of the Congress appropriation for constructing the isthmian waterway, Mr. Shonts said:

It is not true that there has been any shortage or that our plans for forwarding the work on the canal were curtailed for lack of money on the canal were curtailed for lack of money recently when an order was issued that the building of terminals, of houses for the employes and of a better commissary should precede any further work in the actual excavating of the canal. The question of funds has not interfered with an older the care of the canal. terfered with our plans at Panama in any way. No financial difficulties that I know of have since arisen. There is, moreover, scarcely a possibility that the work could be impeded for lack of funds, because the commission has the right at all times to contract against the ap-

right at all times to contract against the appropriation of Congress.

The order issued by the commission on its recent visit to Panama, to cease excavation on the canal, was due to the fact that before the men could dig with steam shovels they must have railroads laid to carry away the dirt. It was further issued because the employes had to have a place to live in before they could be expected to work, and because a good commissary was imperative. Finally, there was a lack of

pected to work, and because a good commissary
was imperative. Finally, there was a lack of
sufficient terminals, both for the railroads, and
for the ocean shipping, five thousand tons of
which lay piled up with no means of handling it.
This is all preliminary work which ought to
have been done at the outset of operations on
the Panama Canal, but which was not done
then. It is not a fact, as has been stated, that then. It is not a fact, as has been stated, the this preparatory work will occupy an entire year before the actual construction of the canal can be resumed. I cannot predict the exact length of time in which the preliminaries will be finished, but it will probably be in the neighborhood of three to four months.

All these different lines of preliminary work are being carried on simultaneously, and not one

All these different lines of preliminary work are being carried on simultaneously, and not one

## MONEY FOR CANAL WORK

#### Appropriation Guarded to Keep Operations Going. Washington, Aug. 17 .- One of the first im-

portant tasks awaiting Mr. Shonts when he as sumed the presidency of the Isthmian Canal Commission was the conservation of the balance remaining of the appropriation of \$10,900,000 so as to guard against a stoppage of the work of canal building. Calling to his aid several expert accountants, the exact state of the finances of the commission was ascertained, and it was found that the work could be steadily prosecuted until Congress at the next regular ession should have ample opportunity to provide more funds. Therefore, the balance on hand was divided into monthly allotments, which have so far been closely adhered to, save in one case, where an unexpected demand arose for additional transportation facilities. Thus the commission has, it believes, avoided the necessity of availing itself of the privilege granted by Congress of issuing bonds to meet expenditures.

The commission to-day issued the following statement on this point:

It was officially stated at the Isthmian Canal Commission to-day that of the appropriation by Congress of \$10.000,000 for the construction of the canal there was on April 1, 1905, the date on which the present commission took h

date on which the present commission took hold, an available balance to the credit of this appropriation of \$7,426,568.

During the month of April the expenditures from this appropriation aggregated \$475,000; during May, \$503,000; during June, \$659,000; during July, \$770,000, for wages, salaries, materials, supplies and equipment. During July there was an unusual expenditure for the purchase of two ships, at \$650,000 each, not included in the July expenditures above. During the month of August, up to and in-

cluding the 15th, \$250,000 has been expended. This left to the balance of the appropriation on August 15, \$2.316,713, in addition to which each of the two disbursing officers had in hand \$500,-

000 on that date.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the average expenditure a month, leaving out of consideration the purchase of these two ships, was in the neighborhood of \$650,000, and at that rate of expenditure the \$2.816,713 will last until early in January, which is according to the schedule fixed by Mr. Shonts on April 1, when he became chairman of the commission

### CALLS NICARAGUA SCHEME DEAD.

#### Ex-Senator Warner Miller Says He Will Not Attempt to Revive It.

Ex-Senator Warner Miller yesterday denied a story contained in a dispatch from Washington saying that he and Judge J. D. Yeomans would revive the Nicaragua Canal scheme and try to obstruct the progress of the Panama Canal. "I haven't seen the dispatch, but one of my

business associates spoke to me about it," said ex-Senator Miller at his office. No. 100 Broad-way, yesterday. "There is not the slightest foundation for any such rumor. I failed to build the Nicaragua Canal, but I am heartily in favor of the Panama Canal, and if I can do anything to help it along I am willing to do so. If any attempt is made to revive the Nicaragua scheme or to obstruct the Panama work it will be done without my assistance or sympathy, make it as strong as you like."

#### CREW OF MR. SHONTS'S YACHT DESERT. Mobile, Alz., Aug. 17.-The crew of T. P. Shonts's yacht Marguedora deserted at Appalachicola, Fla. Mr. Shonts's private secretary was in Mobile to-day arranging for new men.

### SAYS WIFE GAVE POISON.

#### Man Ate Hearty Supper-Taken to Hospital Sick.

Accusing his wife of poisoning him, Edward Dog ney, of No. 5 St. John's-ave., The Bronx, was taken

ney, of No. 5 St. John's-ave., The Bronx, was taken to Lebanon Hospital last night. The police of the Morrisania station, under Captain Monnion, made an ansuccessful search for the woman.

In his ante-morten statement to Coroner Berry. Dogney sold that he had eaten heartily at supper of steak, bread and tea. He declared that his wife had eaten sparingly. Five animutes after supper he said he had been stricken by violent pains and tried to rest on the couch. He said that his wife laughed at him when he asked her to come to his assistance, and, putting on her hat and shawl, went out of the house.

He struggled downstairs and got a neighbor to summon an ambulance. The physicians say they expect his death, although they have been unable to decide the nature of his liness or whether poison had been given him.

Dogney told the coroner that he and his wife had frequently quarrelled over his wanting beer with his meals and his habit of indulging in liquor at ether times.

# Confident of Uniform Policy-First

Meeting Next Thursday. That not merely the Western insurance commisioners but the New-York State legislative com mittee looks for a uniform insurance policy as a result of the forthcoming investigation was substan tially confirmed yesterday by Assemblyman Prentice, the secretary of the committee. While details were lacking. Mr. Prentice told a Tribun reporter that this subject had been discussed alread by the committee, the commissioners having joiner

> Simultaneously with the receipt yesterday by at insurance companies doing business in this state of a printed circular from the committee inviting siggestions, it was reported that certain Equitable; terests had asked the committee's investigation mutualization features of the New-York Life and the Mutual Life. As the legislature's resolution providing for the committee's appointment express ly mentions as subjects for investigation the goernment and control of companies, as well as their contractual relations to policyholders, it is entirely probable that the various "mutualizations" will investigated.

> The first meeting of the committee will be held probably a week from to-day. Charles E. Hughes James McKeen's associate as counsel, is expected to arrive on the Kronprinz Wilhelm on Tuesda Two days, it is expected, will be permitted ; elapse between his arrival and the date of the fra full meeting, to enable the gas inquisitor to "fine himself" in the new inquiry.

Senator W. W. Armstrong, the chairman of the committee, may not return before the actual data of the meeting. Then or before then, Senator Armtrong, it is expected, will announce the success of fallure of his attempt to induce Joseph H. Choate to accept the committee's retainer as advisory

Apropos of this, Mr. Prentice said yesterday;

For my part, I shall not consider the questi-opeless until Senator Armstrong has seen a hoate, and Mr. Choate has definitely refused. The legislative committee sent out yesterday to some forty-four life insurance companies doing usiness in the State a printed letter, which, after

reciting the resolution appointing the committee with the names of the committeemen, closes thus: "At an early date it is the purpose of the con mittee to request specific information upon certain subjects and to proceed with the investigation. In the mean time any communications from you, emodying suggestions which may tend to expedite the work of the committee, they will be glad to re-ceive."

The letter, it is said, was sent to fourteen State institutions, twenty-eight institutions of other States and two Canadian companies, all doing bust The specific information asked for may be

tained by sending to each company a list of ques-tions along similar lines to those Commissioner Folk of Tennessee has sent already. The portion cited of the committee's letter, is construed by many of those interested as a secon suggestion that officials of one company furnish

suggestion that officials of one company furnish hints of the business methods of others. According to communications received, the committee is being urged to extend the scope of its inquiry to certain fraternal and assessment concerns.

Great interest was caused here by the virtual announcement that President Roosevelt at the next session of the national legislature will recomment the enactment of legislation providing for federal supervision of insurance. As to the measure of Senator Dryden of New-Jersey, introduced in the Senate last session and providing for supervisory control of interstate insurance by the Bureau of Corporations, several of the big companies here while apparently conceding the desirability of some such consummation, reiterate that the Supreme Court apparently holds that an insurance policy is not an article of commerce, but a contract hetween company and policyholder, and that the Supreme Court could not hold otherwise without reversing itself.

RUSH TO GET CLAIMS.

### Fully 3,000 at Reservation Drawing in Utah.

Provo. Utah, Aug. 17 .- Fully three thousand persons were present to-day when the drawing for homesteads at the Uintah reservation opened. The 37,650 envelopes containing the names of persons registered were placed in a revolving box and a thorough shaking up was given. The envelopes were drawn from the box by three boys, and the names were announced to

the crowd. Ray Daniels, of Provo, Utah, was the first name drawn from the box. The second name drawn was Noah M. Balbock, of Angora, Col. Daniels and Balbock will be entitled to first and second choices of quarter sections of the reserva-tion lands to be thrown open to entry on August 28. About two thousand names were drawn to day, and the drawing will be continued Satur day.

RESERVES CALLED OFF.

### Police No Longer Fear Trouble from Striking Bakers.

The police reserves were withdrawn yesterday from the East Side bakeries as the result of a conference between Inspector Schmittberger and President Jacob Bock of the Hebrew Boss Bakers' Association. This is taken as an indication that the police, who had kept watch of the situation for the last week, regard the

strike as officially ended. The remnant of the strikers who have not given up the fight or gone back to work under individual agreements, met at Jefferson Hall No. 92 Columbia-st., where it was announced that ninety-one boss bakers had settled individually. President Book of the Hebrew Boss Bakers' Association, said the men who signed individual agreements were principally small bakers. Practically all the shops were working. and nearly all the members of the association had the strikers back working under the open shop agreement. Asked if the members of the association who had signed individual agreements with the union would be disciplined. be

No. They will be punished enough. Individual strikes will be ordered against them every month. That is what the union men did before the big strike started, and they will contin

Among the boss bakers belonging to the ciation reported by the strikers yesterday as having signed an individual agreement with the union was L. Lesser, one of the committee of boss bakers, who attended the "peace" conference with the union on Saturday, which prored a finsco.

A mass meeting of Italian bakers, of whom there are about two thousand in New-York, was held yesterday at No. 184 Sullivan-st. to form a union. About five hundred attended the meeting which was addressed by Heintz, international organizer of the bakers' union, and Kurts. the strike leader. Kurtz said afterward that the Italian bakers offered to strike in sympathy everal days ago. They were told that such a strike would not be necessary.

#### BUSINESS TROUBLES.

The schedules in the assignment of the Art Low ers' Society, a New-York corporation, publishers, at No. 34 West 28th-st., show: Liabilities, \$2,988; nominal assets, \$3,739; actual assets, \$566.

#### PETITIONS IN BANKRUPTCY. The following petitions in bankruptcy were filed to terday with the Clerk of the United States District

terday with the Clerk of the United States District Corte.

An involuntary petition filed against Rutchik & Rufor, trimmings, No. 38 Wooster-st., by S. Nachstal & Co. and other creditors, claims aggregating \$033; preferantly payments complained of; Edward M. Cox appointed receiver, bond, \$1,000.

An involuntary petition, filed against the Simapan Mining and Smelting Company, No. 112 Fulton-at, by Thomas Adams, it., claim of \$5,281, other creditors, claims of \$1,225.

An involuntary petition, filed against Abraham Prabed and Jacob Dronsick, No. 139 East Broadway, Dy Armas Chincheck and others; claims aggregating \$100, treely vency admitted.

An involuntary petition, filed against Bay Covery admitted.

An involuntary petition, filed against Bay Covery admitted.

An involuntary petition, filed against Bay Covery admitted.

Secondary, at No. 213 Pearles, by James L. Company, at No. 213 Pearles, by James L. Company, at No. 213 Pearles, by James L. Schuller, filed against filed against Bay Covery, and the secondary of the secondary and the second